



Expansion and Reform

1801–1861



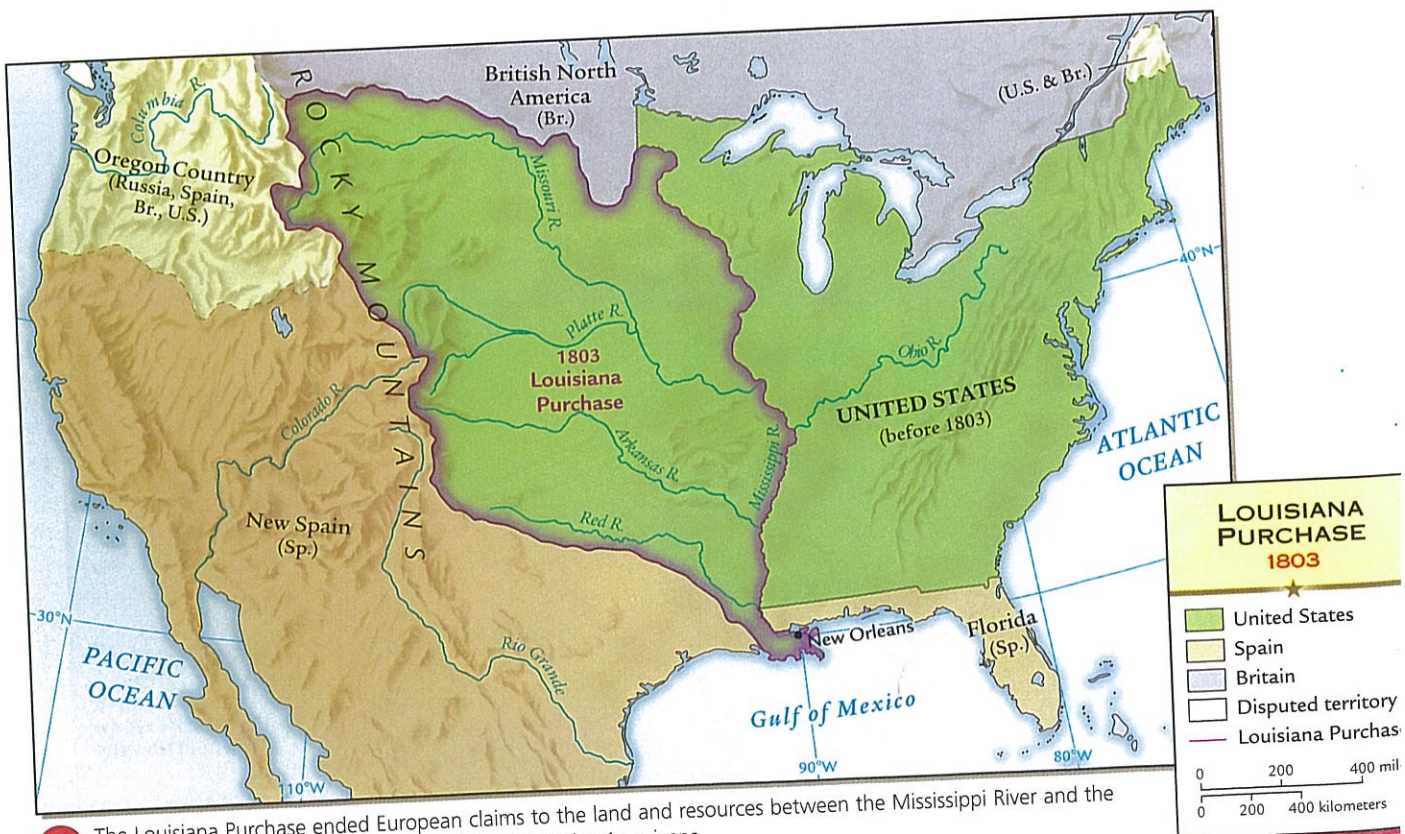
Growing With the Louisiana Territory

The Louisiana Purchase was the first step in the expansion of the country during the 1800s.

- ★ When the United States bought the Louisiana Territory from France in 1803, the size of the country doubled.
- ★ In 1804–1806, an expedition led by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark explored the new territory.
- ★ Information they gathered about the route and its people, terrain, plants, and wildlife guided later exploration and settlement.



A Much of the Louisiana Territory consisted of the Great Plains. In 1803 they were inhabited by Native Americans such as these hunters painted by George Catlin.



B The Louisiana Purchase ended European claims to the land and resources between the Mississippi River and the Rocky Mountains. It did not end older claims by Native Americans.

1825
Erie Canal links Great Lakes with Atlantic.

1830s
Removal of Indians from East to the Indian Territory.

1836
Texas wins independence from Mexico.

1837
School reform begun by Horace Mann.

1848
First women's rights convention, Seneca Falls, NY

1849
Gold Rush draws miners to California.

1854
Japan trade opened by Commodore Perry.

1850s
Abolition movement grows in North.

1861
Civil War begins.

1830

1831
The Liberator begins publication.

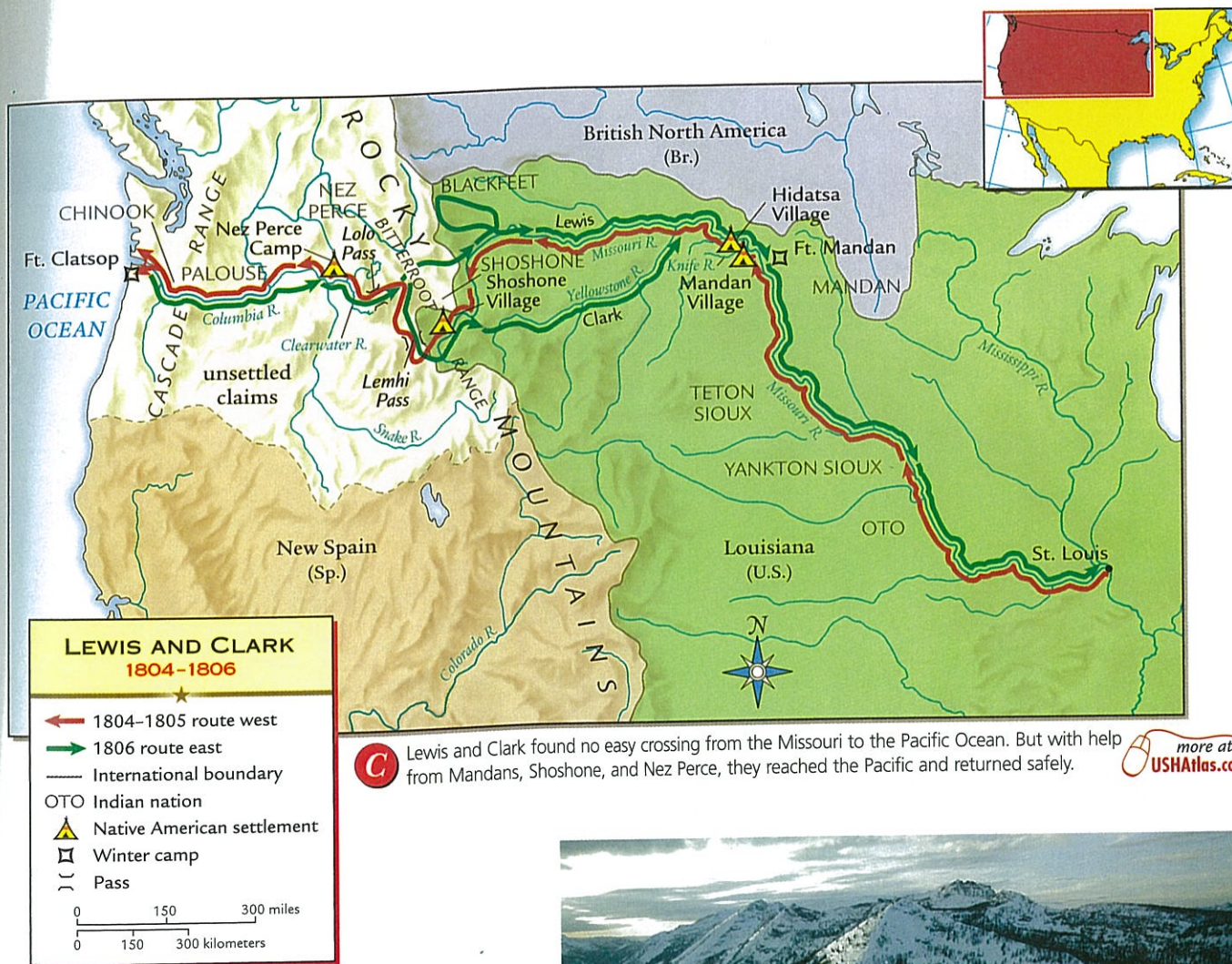
1840

1846-1848
War with Mexico expands U.S. again.

1850

1847-1854
Irish immigrants flee Potato Famine.

1860



C Lewis and Clark found no easy crossing from the Missouri to the Pacific Ocean. But with help from Mandans, Shoshone, and Nez Perce, they reached the Pacific and returned safely.

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"I discovered immense ranges of high mountains still to the West..."

—CAPTAIN MERIWETHER LEWIS, AUGUST 12, 1805
DESCRIBING THE VIEW FROM LEMHI PASS
ON THE CONTINENTAL DIVIDE



D When the Lewis and Clark expedition began to climb the Rockies, they hoped to see an easy route to the Pacific Coast once they reached the top. All they saw were more mountains.

